

The Sea

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Category: Animorphs

Language: English

Status: In-Progress

Published: 1999-12-25 08:00:00

Updated: 1999-12-25 08:00:00

Packaged: 2016-04-27 11:28:51

Rating: K+

Chapters: 1

Words: 403

Publisher: www.fanfiction.net

Summary: Epilogue to The Storm. YOU MUST READ THE STORM FIRST!

The Sea

The Sea Cassie

I sat on the edge of the cliffs, watching the ocean. The waves were a stormy gray, so much unlike the blue green I knew and loved. The yeerks have been dumping so many chemicals into the water, it's lost it's glitter and shine. You couldn't pay me to swim there now.

Hearing a high pitched, childish voice calling my name, I turned around to see Mari running toward me, her hands full of a kind of small, ugly little flower.

"For you," she said shyly. I smiled, and carefully laid the flowers down on the ground. Then she plopped into my lap, and I sat rocking her for, oh, I don't know how long. After the others left, abandoned Earth almost two weeks ago, I had lived by myself for a few days. But then, I found Mari. She is a beautiful little girl, maybe five years old. She was alone, so I began to take care of her, finally bringing her to my little cove to live.

Looking at Mari makes my heart ache. She is such a energetic, beautiful, happy little person. She doesn't really know what's going on. I couldn't bear to think of what would happen to her.

The yeerks wouldn't use her for a host. She was too young. Too defenseless. Yeerks didn't want defenseless hosts. If they found her, Mari would be shot.

My arms tightened around Mari, and I pushed the thought of of my mind, but it only came creeping back. We had a choice. The yeerks could find us. Our cove wasn't really safe, and there was no where else to go. The Hork Bajir valley was gone, discovered by the Yeerks. If we

were found, Mari would be shot, and I would be tortured, then made into a controller.

But there was another choice. My gaze slid to the edge of the cliff. We could have a different death. A jump from the cliff. The outcome was the same for Mari. And I had to do it for her. I couldn't let her be frightened, couldn't let her be afraid. I started to stand, but stopped when I heard Mari's heavy, even breathing. I settled back against the sand and watched the stars come out. My friends were out there.

And I would watch over them.

End
file.